(b) action being taken to impress upon such States to implement the 85th Amendment;

(c) reasons for not issuing notification to Uttaranchal Government on the lines of Uttar Pradesh Government; and

(d) whether Government of India would issue any special instruction to Uttaranchal Government for implementing this amendment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) to (d) The 85th Amendment of the Constitution was enacted to provide for consequential seniority to SC/ST employees on their promotion to higher post/grade by rule of reservation. The amendment applies to State Governments also and no separate directions are to be issued by the Central Government to the State Governments. The Central Government does not have any data regarding implementation of the 85th Amendment by the States.

**Vacant posts in different Ministries**

†4900. SHRI ABHAY KANT PRASAD : Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of posts of employees of various categories in different Ministries are lying vacant since long;

(b) if so, the Ministry-wise details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to fill these vacant posts during the current year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) The information regarding the number of posts lying vacant in different Ministries is not Centrally maintained as they are maintained by the respective Ministries/ Departments.

(c) and (d) Respective Ministries/ Departments initiate steps, from time to time, for filling up vacancies, within the framework of existing instructions/ rules.

**Allocation of Excess employees of Chhattisgarh/Madhya Pradesh**

4901. PROF. R. B. S. VARMA: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state :

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.